



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

EIGHTEENTH YEAR, NO. 46.

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THE PEOPLE DEMAND HONEST TAXATION

IS UNCLE SAM AFRAID?

People Are Wondering Why the Government Does Not Get After the Beef Trust.

Fine and Imprisonment Would Be None Too Good for This Offender,

Because the Beef Trust Strikes Every Home in the Land with Its Extortion.

People Cannot Eat Coal Oil, but They Must Have Meat to Eat or Else Starve.

The Beef Trust Can Extort Any Price that It Wants from the Public.

The people are beginning to think that the Government is afraid of the Beef Trust.

It is making a fine fight against the Oil Trust, the Tobacco Trust and other trusts that never raise the price of food on the public.

But it has laid down its hand and quit badly in the prosecution of the Beef Trust.

The presidential campaign of 1908 is near at hand, and the Oil Trust and Tobacco Trust prosecutions are relied upon to furnish good capital for the party in power.

But Americans are a meat eating people, and the last cent has been extracted from them by the Beef Trust for their favorite food.

People do not eat coal oil. They do not all use tobacco.

But everybody eats meat.

And every meat eater has been and is the victim of the most awful trade combine ever organized in the history of the world.

The Government sits aside while the beef barons grow rich at the expense of the people.

The time when a majority of the people can be fooled all of the time is past.

In this connection, the following from an article in the Chicago Record-Herald Thursday, Aug. 15, 1907, is of interest:

"It is thought the government has grown tired of prying evidence out of corporations and in return giving a contract of immunity. In every wrong act that has been uncovered thus far by departments of the government, the evidence has been given by one of the parties guilty of the alleged crime. This has led to many immunity baths, which now are thought to be distressing the administration."

There is a growing demand on the part of the people for the indictment of the Beef Trust by the federal grand jury.

The last indictment of this awful combine, which has raised the price of food on the people, was a failure, the indictments being quashed because the members of the trust had given the government evidence against themselves.

Since that time new crimes against the United States anti-trust laws have been committed and the evidence of this fact is easily obtainable. It is fresh and convincing.

By all means, indict the Beef Trust again, and then when it is found guilty and fined between forty and one hundred millions of dollars, perhaps it will have more respect for the laws and maybe for the people.

Can the government afford to go into a presidential campaign next year on its Beef Trust record? We should

say not. The indictment of the Tobacco Trust, the conviction of the Standard Oil Trust will not satisfy the people. THE PEOPLE DEMAND SOME NEW ACTION ON THE TRUST THAT HAS RAISED THE PRICE OF FOOD TO MAKE ITSELF RICHER.

The Beef Trust will be a campaign issue next year. The Government has four-fifths on this food trust, which is the worst trust of all. People do not eat coal oil, but they do eat meat. Coal oil is cheap and meat is dear. Is the Beef Trust too powerful to prosecute, or is it to be forever immune?

The Trust press will fight shy of advocating the punishment of the Beef Trust, the worst Trust of all. It will continue to yawn about the Railroad Trust, the Tobacco Trust and the Oil Trust, but a Trust that raises the price of food on the people and at the same time buys advertising space must be forgotten.

Doc Evans, who draws a salary as Commissioner of Health of the City of Chicago, is at it again.

The Doc is the man who withdrew the city inspectors from the big packing houses, because the government inspector was so efficient, don't you know?

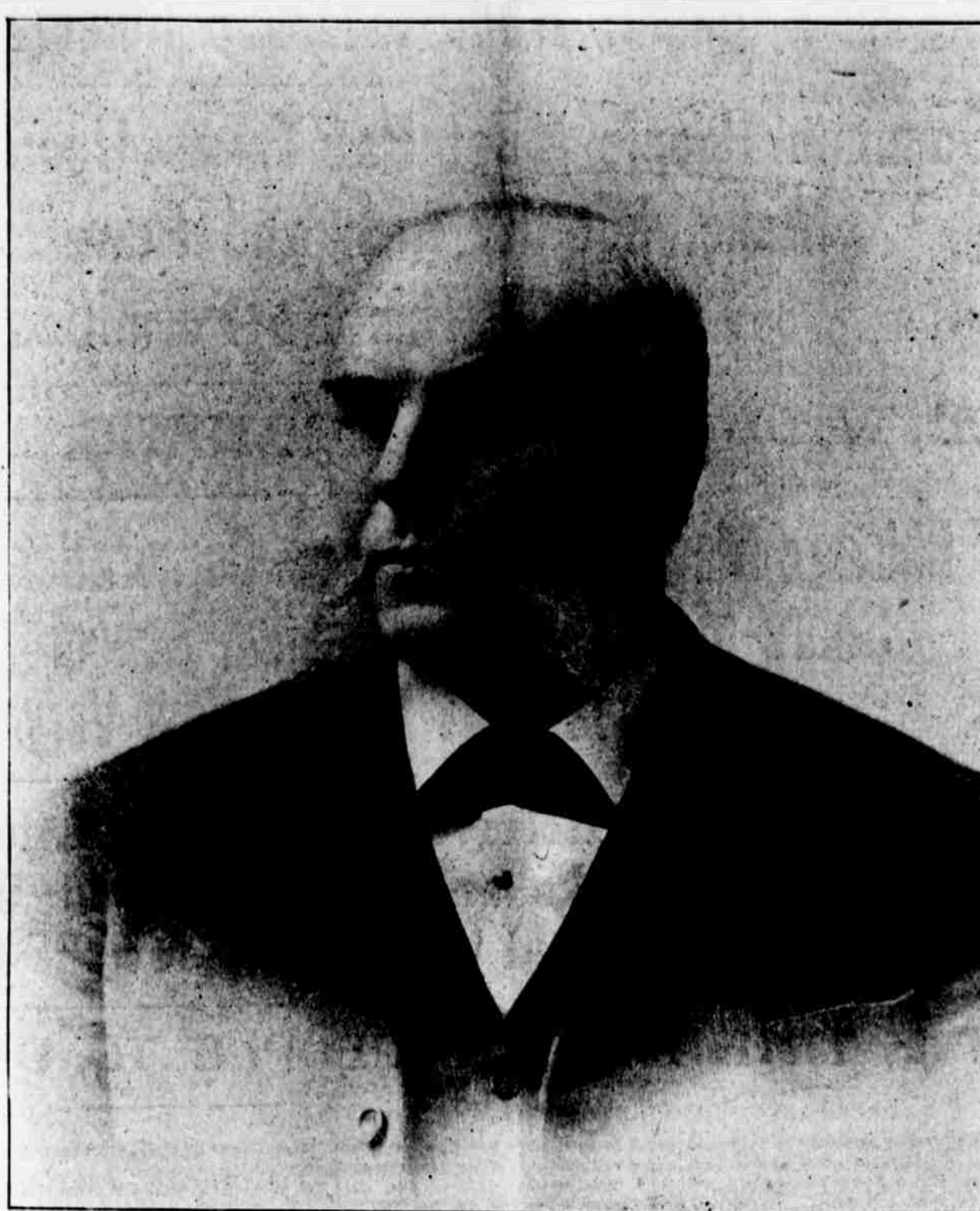
The predecessor in office of the Doc and several eminent authorities were not of the opinion that the so-called government inspector was of much benefit to anybody except the packers, as the records of the Chicago Health Department will prove.

The Doc is very much interested in pure food it seems, that is, in food not produced by the Stock Yards interests. This seems to be a peculiarity of all of our "food" and "health" officials.

Hence, the popular surprise at the following item which appeared in Wednesday's papers:

"Health Commissioner Evans intends to confer with Dr. A. L. Winton of the federal food commission and State Food Commissioner A. Hanby Jones today in an attempt to secure co-operation in the inspection of foods delivered to or originating in Chicago. The spread of contagion in South Chicago has caused Commissioner Evans to arrange with Chief Shipley for the police to maintain the quarantine against cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria. The ministers of South Chicago have promised to talk next Sunday to their congregations about the diseases."

Either we have a government or we haven't a government. If we have a government it should show that it exists by administering its laws for the benefit of the rich and poor alike. If we have no government, the sooner the people find out the fact the better, so



JOSEPH LISTER,
Well Known Manufacturer.

that they can form a government. If a government exists merely to give police protection to packers and others when they have quarrels with their employees; to exempt these same packers and others from paying their just share of taxes and to shift the burden of these exempted taxes on the poor man, then such a government is a farce. If a so-called government merely consists of a collection of high-salaried officeholders, whose principal object in official life appears to be to curry favor with tax-dodging corporations and the officers thereof, it is time that the people found out what those favors, so curried, consist of. The people are awakening upon this subject. The great majority of them are law-abiding, but they do not propose that the law-abiding shall be done by the poor alone, while the tax-dodging multi-millionaires can be a law unto themselves.

A. W. Goodrich, the steamboat man, is said to have a fire alarm bell in his bedroom, so anxious is he never to miss a fire. The Board of Review has never been called upon to install a hurry call in Fire Marshal Goodrich's apartments.

That subway of Armour's is just pining for a high pressure water system.

When millions of taxes are wiped off the books it must be for some consideration. What is this consideration?

Marshall Field & Company are only valued at \$6,000,000 by the assessors, and taxed on one-fifth of it. In view of this fact, it is interesting to note the insurance carried by this firm, which is as follows:

State street section	\$4,000,000
Wabash avenue section	1,500,000
Wholesale	3,000,000
Madison street	500,000
Fixtures	500,000
Total	\$13,000,000

These figures take no notice of the fact that the insurance is supposed to cover but 80 per cent of the real value,

which would make the assessors' valuation appear about \$10,500,000 shy of the true figure.

Why do we accept tainted money from Trusts for schools and hospitals as a compliment when the money is legally due us from them and a great deal more at that? And why do we organize societies to solicit charity from these delinquent trusts, when societies should be organized to see that their taxes are paid and that the people would not have to be under obligations to Trusts for charity.

Every laboring man owning a little home, was obliged to pay his full share of taxes for building that 39th street sewer. But the packers, for whose benefit the sewer was built, escaped taxes on hundreds of millions of outside stocks owned by them.

The interest that asks the most arduous service of the fire department is the packing interest. It is the interest which pays the smallest percentage of taxes upon its wealth.

Some of the tax dodgers will wake up one of these fine days to discover that Chicago is not as uncivilized as they think it is.

If you want more policemen and more firemen, you must get after the tax dodgers. There lies the remedy.

The stock yards interests which openly evade their just share of taxes have more to say about the government of the police force and other branches of civic administration than all other classes of citizens combined. The tax-dodging packers insisted that the city health inspectors be withdrawn from the big packing houses and they were withdrawn, although the health of the world might suffer. The tax-dodging packers, who withhold millions of dollars in taxes from the public treasury, sit serene in their counting rooms, while the mechanics, laboring men and small business people make up their deficit in the tax levy. These are plain,

unvarnished facts, and the wonder is that the public has stood for it so long. But the public is proverbially slow. It always was until it woke up, and then it has always been proverbially fast.

How does the little grocer in the suburbs, who pays taxes on the full value of his small store, like it that the big packers are not assessed on one-fiftieth of their real value?

How does the retail butcher like it? How do the soap manufacturers like it that Armour does not pay on his entire plant the real value of his soap works?

If Mr. Armour can afford to build a \$2,500,000 house at Lake Forest, surely the Chicago Assessors should not insult him by estimating his taxable wealth at a paltry \$200,000.

The packers in magazine articles and everywhere else have claimed that their profits all came from "by products"; that there was nothing in their regular business but loss, etc. If this is so, their most profitable "by product" would appear to be tax dodging.

Real estate taxes have been raised all over Chicago. They will be higher this year than ever before. If the big packing corporations who make their millions out of prices wrung from the people for food, would pay their just proportion of personal taxes, real estate taxation would be much lower.

The packers will be obliged, before this agitation ceases, to not only pay their full and just proportion of the personal tax, but they will be obliged to pay back taxes for the full amount for five years. The Supreme Court has passed upon this matter and the way is clear. The packers appear to have things pretty much their own way just now, but the people will wake up one of these days.

Mr. Armour's great scheme for furnishing heat, steam and power through the new tunnels he has purchased, will do much towards making the "city beautiful."

AFTER TAX DODGERS.

Square Deal Tax League Demand that Rich Fellows Who Have Escaped Pay Up.

A Lot of Familiar Names in the List Handed In.

Among Others We Notice Armour and Swift and Goodrich Among the Big Leaders,

But the Public Is Getting Used to Seeing Them in This Connection Regularly,

And Is More Anxious Than Ever for the Authorities to Act Very Quickly.

The Square Deal Tax League, represented by Attorney Charles E. Erbelein, branched out and called the attention of the board of review to a number of wealthy Chicagoans who own stock in foreign corporations on which they pay no taxes.

The league wants the citizens involved called before the reviewers and compelled to confess to their holdings and submit to assessment thereon. The league declares the stock involved has a total valuation of tens of millions of dollars.

Some of the companies and the Chicagoans owning stock are: Kansas City railway and Light Company, New Jersey corporation; \$12,500,000 preferred, \$12,500,000 common stock. Directors and heavy owners, J. Ogden Armour and Samuel McRoberts of Chicago.

G. H. Hammond Company, Michigan; \$4,000,000 stock. Directors and owners, J. Ogden Armour, Samuel McRoberts, Arthur Meeker, T. J. Connors, Henry Veeder, Chicago.

Swift's Refrigerator Transportation Company, Maine; \$5,000,000 in stock. Directors and owners, Edward F. Swift, L. A. Carton and other stock yards men.

United States Leather Company, New Jersey; \$64,000,000 preferred, \$64,000,000 common. Directors and big stockholders, P. A. Valentine and J. Ogden Armour.

Goodrich Transit Company, Maine; \$500,000 stock. President and chief stockholder, A. W. Goodrich, Chicago. This company, according to the league's statement, pays the city nothing in taxes on its boats, and in addition gets its dock from the city at an absurdly low rental.

Union Stock Yards Company of Omaha, \$7,500,000 in stock. Local packers represented by Samuel McRoberts own a large interest.

Charles S. Deneen, who has aroused the admiration of the people as Governor by suing the Illinois Central for \$5,000,000 back taxes, would increase his popularity by suing some of the big packers for their back taxes.

The interest that asks the most assistance from the police force is the packing interest. The strikes caused by its treatment of its employees have come nearer to bringing on a revolution in Chicago than anything that ever occurred here. Yet these packers "dodge" their taxes.

Government for the packers, by the packers and of the packers is getting unpopular.

The Ammonia Tank victims at the packing plants will probably go unavenged. It seems to be hard to get

grand juries to act on the killing of seventeen men by Ammonia Explosions nowadays. We wonder why?

Fire Marshal A. W. Goodrich should see that those boats pay taxes. The city needs money.

Read about Armour, Swift, McRoberts and the rest of the gang on pages 2, 3 and 9.

The Board of Assessors next spring should insist on the Armour-Swift crowd filing schedules in accordance with the law. If they refuse to obey the law, the assessors should obey the law themselves.

Chapter 120, Section 290, Revised Statutes of Illinois, provides the following:

Any assessor or deputy assessor or supervisor of assessments or other persons, whose duty it is to assess property for taxation, or equalize any such assessment, who shall refuse or knowingly neglect to perform any duty required of him by law, or who shall consent to or connive at any evasion of the provisions of this act whereby any property required to be assessed shall be unlawfully exempted in whole or in part, or the valuation thereof entered or set down at more or less than is required by law, shall, upon conviction, be fined for each offense not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000 and IMPRISONED IN THE COUNTY JAIL, not exceeding one year, and shall also be liable upon his bond to the party injured for all damages sustained by such party.

Armour & Company, that great corporation that Chicago is so proud of, has been grossly insulted by the Board of Assessors.

The Assessors reported that they could only find \$2,500,000 worth of personal property belonging to Armour & Company in Chicago.

Why the Armour soap plant alone, which is furnishing the world with Pond's Extract Soap and other brands of fine washing material, is worth \$2,500,000.

Yet the soap plant is a very insignificant part of the Armour holdings, which embrace over a score of other important industries.

Of course the soap plant should not be belittled, for the Pullman Company now uses Armour's "individual soap cakes" on all of its palace cars and rumor had it the other day that the Pullman Company itself was going to become one of the cogs in the Armour system.

Personal property of the big corporation known as Swift and Company has